(c) and (d) Archaeological exploration and excavation is an ongoing exercise undertaken by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). For the Commonwealth Games, 2010, 46 monuments have been chosen in Delhi for facelift. The facelift works on these monuments are going on and would be accomplished well in time for the Games.

(e) Does not arise.

Manuscripts in Assam

1363. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in Assam 200-400 year old manuscripts of various old shrines are becoming unfit to read which were written in the bark of tree, traditionally known as Xasipat in Assam;

(b) if so, whether Government would take some policy to create local museums with hundred per cent finance from the Central Government to preserve such age old manuscripts, etc.;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the State Government of Assam has approached the Central Government for assistance in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Government is aware that some of the manuscripts written on the bark of agora tree, known as Sanchipat are in bad shape and need conservation measures.

(b) and (c) National Mission for Manuscripts, set up by the Government, is working for conservation, digitization and documentation of such manuscripts through its network of Resource Centres and Conservation Centres. Ministry of Culture is also implementing a scheme of financial assistance upto 80 per cent of the estimated cost for 'Setting up, Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums'. Besides, the National Archives of India, an attached office of the Ministry of Culture, is operating the following two financial assistance schemes:—

(i) "Scheme of Financial Assistance to State/Union Territory Archival Repositories, Government Libraries and Museums".

(ii) "Scheme of Financial Assistance for Preservation of Manuscripts/Rare Books for NGO's/Individuals etc."

(d) No, Sir.

Protection of Culture

1364. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has sent the committees to study the culture and protect it for the future generations, especially Telugu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, by when such committees would visit the remote areas in each State and submit its report to his Ministry to protect the culture of every State; and

(d) the funds being allocated and spent for the visit of such committees to each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration at this stage.

(d) Does not arise.

Late arrival of Monsoon

1365. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has convened any meeting of Secretaries of various States to study the late arrival of monsoon in each State especially from Andhra Pradesh recently;

(b) if so, the details discussed and decisions arrived so far; and

(c) if not, by when such meeting will take place to monitor the day-to-day weather in each State especially in Andhra Pradesh where farmers are in trouble due to late arrival of rains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The day-to-day weather and monsoon situation is being closely monitored by the Ministry of Earth Sciences and Indian Meteorological Department. Daily information despatches are sent to Cabinet Secretariat and all concerned Ministries including Agriculture, Water Resources, Rural Department, etc.

Earthquake prone zone

1366. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geo Hayard International and the UN Centre for Regional Development has conducted a study in 21 cities in our country to locate earthquake prone zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this study report has revealed that Delhi and Mumbai are earthquake prone zone; and